

Speaking, Listening and Understanding

- To say their name and age.
- Beginning to have a wide vocabulary and use new words that they have learnt.
- Answer simple who, what, where, when questions and beginning to answer why and how questions.
- Speak in a sentence (5-6 words)
- Speak clearly (but not always grammatically correct).
- Tell stories.
- Enjoy listening to stories—recall points and start to make predictions.
- Follow more complex commands e.g. Put the red ball under the table.
- Understand prepositions—under, inside, on top, behind, in front, in between.

Social and Emotional

- Begin to have own friends.
- Imitate family members and friends.
- Show affection to others.
- Understand that actions can hurt others.
- Understands things are theirs or others.
- Begin to share with support.
- Show a wide range of emotions—sad, angry, happy, bored, scared.
- Have an awareness of family members.

Fine Motor Skills (Hand and Finger)

- Use pincer grip to pick up and squeeze small objects e.g. pegs.
- Turn pages correctly in a book.
- Use age appropriate scissors to make snips and then lines.
- Copy circles (age 3) and squares (age 4).
- Draw a person with 2-4 body parts.
- Copy some letters from name—not always correctly formed.
- Begin to do own fastenings on clothes—zips/buttons/poppers/Velcro.
- Build towers with 4 or more blocks.
- Screw/unscrew lids
- Use age appropriate tweezers to pick up objects.

Basic skills for 3 and 4 year olds in Nursery



Physical

- Walk up and down stairs using alternate feet (1 foot per step).
- Kick, throw and catch a large ball.
- Climb well.
- Run confidently (avoiding obstacles) and ride a tricycle.
- Hop & stand on 1 foot for up to 5 seconds.
- Walk forwards and backwards.
- Squat when playing and stand up again without using hands.
- Help with clothing and put own shoes on.
- Use the toilet with some support to wipe.
- Wash own hands correctly.

Maths and Literacy

- Name and identify familiar colours.
- Understand the idea of same, different & same —comparing sizes and amounts.
- Develop concept of time—morning , afternoon, night.
- Recite numbers to 10 and use these to count objects by touching/moving them.
- Understand amounts change when objects added or taken away.
- Sort object by shape & colour.
- Identify and name basic 2d shapes— square, circle, triangle, rectangle—and recognise similarities in the environment e.g. that's like the moon (circle).
- Complete age appropriate puzzles.
- Role play through pretending and replicating.
- Recognise own name.
- Enjoy listening to stories.
- Join in with songs & rhymes, anticipating missing words of known songs/rhymes.